

PRESS RELEASE

Senator Patrick Testin <u>Sen.Testin@legis.wi.gov</u> (608) 266-3123 June 26th, 2020

Sen. Testin Recognized as a Champion of Economic Development

Wisconsin Rapids, WI – Earlier today, a local legislator earned recognition for his efforts to grow the economy in Central and Western Wisconsin. On Thursday, Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) accepted the Champion of Economic Development award from the Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA), a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to growing Wisconsin's economy.

"Senator Testin continues to be a strong voice for economic development in the legislature, advocating for policies and programs that encourage economic growth and opportunity for Wisconsin citizens," said Michael Welsh, WEDA Legislative Affairs Director. "His leadership during the 2019-20 legislative session on key initiatives to advance workforce development and spur investment in Wisconsin will help enhance the state's business climate and provide new avenues for growth."

Mr. Welsh was joined by Wisconsin Rapids area economic development leaders, including Angel Whitehead, the President of the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, and Gordon Crow, Executive Director of Centergy.

"Senator Testin is an outstanding legislator who has led and collaborated on many vital pieces of legislation," said Whitehead. "His efforts have had a direct positive impact on economic growth in our local community. He is well-deserving of this award from WEDA."

Senator Testin graciously accepted the award and acknowledged some of the challenges that lie ahead.

"I'm grateful to have earned this award, but I also understand that we're facing a real challenge. COVID-19 and the ensuing shutdown has hit a lot of our communities and neighbors hard," said Testin. "People in Central and Western Wisconsin make the most of the opportunities that they receive, and I'm committed to working to make sure that they get more of those opportunities. We will get this state back to work and moving forward again."

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